charge of domestic waste of Bhopal through the various drains joining the river. However, untreated effluents from the Mandideep industrial area are not discharged into the river. Accordingly, pollution abatement of river Betwa has been taken up under the National River Conservation Plan.

(e) Does not arise.

Environmental Activities in CRZ of Orissa

2142. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are examining the environmental activities according to the Supreme Court's judgement dated December 11, 1996 operating in the coastal regulation zone in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) In compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on December 11, 1996, Government have constituted an Aquaculture Authority under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. This Authority will deal with all issues relating to shrimp culture industry in all coastal areas of the country including Orissa.

Andhra Pradesh Government's Request for Permission to allot Forest Land to the Occupant

2143. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has asked for permission to allot lands to tribals and non-tribals who occupied forest land in the State and the State Government are ready to spare waste land in lieu of the forest land for afforestation purpose;

(b) if so, the action taken on the request; and

(c) by when the permission is likely to be granted?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Government of Andhra Pradesh have submitted a proposal under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for dereservation of 33 ha. of forest land for assignment of pattas to tribals in Polavaram range in West Godawari district. The proposal has been received in the Ministry on 19.2.97 and is being processed.

(c) Expeditious action will be taken to take a decision on the proposal if it is found complete in all respects and within the policy framework.

Newsitem Captioned "Import of Hazardous Waste Management"

2144. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the 'Statesman', dated 16th February, 1997, under the caption "Import of hazardous waste continues";

(b) whether hazardous waste is still flooding India despite the import ban by the Delhi High Court, in blatant violation not only of Indian law but also of the Basel Convention on trans-boundary movement thereof; and

(c) the reason for Government being unable to stop the import of such waste which is a serious environmental and health hazard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The import of hazardous wastes is regulated under rule-11 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989, notified by the Government of India, Ministry of Envi-